

# PNEUMOCOCCAL POLYSACCHARIDE VACCINE 23-VALENT (PPV23)

## INDICATIONS

**All persons > 65 years**

**Persons 2 - 64 years who have chronic illness:**

- ▶ Cardiovascular disease (e.g., CHF, cardiomyopathies)
- ▶ Pulmonary disease (not asthma)
- ▶ Diabetes mellitus
- ▶ CSF leaks
- ▶ Alcoholism, chronic liver disease

**Persons 2 - 64 years who are immunocompromised:**

- ▶ Hodgkin's disease, lymphoma, leukemia, or multiple myeloma
- ▶ Chronic renal failure or nephrotic syndrome
- ▶ Damaged spleen or no spleen
- ▶ Conditions such as organ transplants associated with immunosuppression.
- ▶ Immunosuppressive therapy, including long-term corticosteroids, radiation and certain cancer drugs.

**Persons 2 - 64 years who live with HIV infections.**

**Persons 2 - 64 years who reside in long-term care facilities.**

**Persons 2 - 64 years who are Native Americans or Alaskan Native.**

## UNKNOWN HISTORY

When vaccination status is unknown, the CDC recommends vaccination.

## REVACCINATION RECOMMENDATIONS

*Routine* revaccination is not advised.

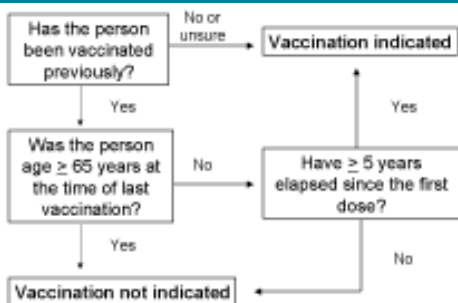
Revaccination **once**, five years after the first dose, is indicated for:

- ▶ Persons > 65 years, if they were < 65 years at the time of the previous vaccination.
- ▶ Persons 2 - 64 years at highest risk for complications, or whose antibodies decline rapidly.

## VACCINE ADMINISTRATION

Pneumococcal vaccine is administered intramuscularly or subcutaneously as one 0.5 mL dose.

## VACCINATING PERSONS > 65 YEARS



## CONTRAINDICATIONS AND PRECAUTIONS

- ▶ Anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose or to any component of the vaccine, including thimerosal.
- ▶ Neurological symptoms following previous dose.
- ▶ Acute, moderate, or severe illness with or without fever (temporary contraindication).
- ▶ Pregnancy

## ADVERSE REACTIONS

**Local reactions** (e.g., pain, swelling, or erythema at site of injection) reported more frequently after a second dose of vaccine than after the first.

**Systemic reactions** (e.g., fever and myalgia) occur in < 1% of patients vaccinated.

These do not represent contraindications to vaccination and must be weighed against the significant morbidity and mortality caused by pneumococcal disease.

## TALKING POINTS WITH PATIENTS

- ▶ 40,000 Americans die from pneumococcal disease every year.
- ▶ Pneumococcal disease is now becoming resistant to the drugs that were once effective in treating it.
- ▶ Most pneumococcal deaths are in people > 65 years.
- ▶ The most common side effect is a sore arm lasting 24 - 48 hours.
- ▶ It is okay to get the PPV23 at the same time as the flu shot.

### References

- CDC. (2000). "Pneumococcal Disease." *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases* - 6th Edition.
- CDC. (1997). "Prevention of Pneumococcal Disease." *MMWR*. 46:RR-8.
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health. (2000). "Adult Immunization Guidelines - March 2000."